Chapter 316, P.L. 2001

(Approved January 3, 2002)

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 3247

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 209th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 1, 2001

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman JOHN C. GIBSON
District 1 (Cape May, Atlantic and Cumberland)
Assemblyman NICHOLAS ASSELTA
District 1 (Cape May, Atlantic and Cumberland)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Blee, Arnone, Assemblywoman Farragher, Assemblyman R.Smith, Assemblywoman Previte, Senators Cafiero, Ciesla and Matheussen

SYNOPSIS

Extends State-paid post-retirement SHBP benefits to State Police officers upon mandatory retirement with

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more than 20 but fewer than 25 years of service.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Appropriations Committee on June 21, 2001, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/18/2001)

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹ Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted June 21, 2001.

AN ACT concerning health care benefits in retirement for certain members of the State Police Retirement System of New Jersey and amending P.L.1965, c.89.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

- 1. Section 8 of P.L.1965, c.89 (C.53:5A-8) is amended to read as follows:
- 8. a. The Legislature finds and declares that the public health, safety and welfare require the ongoing health and fitness of all members of the New Jersey State Police so that they may safely and efficiently protect the public. The Legislature further finds and declares that such continued health and fitness cannot be determined except with reference to age, and therefore finds and concludes that retirement of all members of the State Police at age 55, except as provided for in subsection c. of this section, shall constitute a bona fide occupational qualification which is reasonably necessary to the normal operation of the State Police, which qualification the Legislature hereby promulgates and establishes.
- b. Any member of the retirement system may retire on a service retirement allowance upon the completion of at least 20 years of creditable service as a State policeman, which includes the creditable service of those members appointed to the Division of State Police under section 3 of P.L.1983, c.403 (C.39:2-9.3) and the creditable service of those members appointed to the Division of State Police under section 1 of P.L.1997, c.19 (C.53:1-8.2). Upon the filing of a written and duly executed application with the retirement system, setting forth at what time, not less than one month subsequent to the filing thereof, he desires

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to be retired, any such member retiring for service shall receive a service retirement allowance which shall consist of:

- (1) An annuity which shall be the actuarial equivalent of his aggregate contributions; and
- (2) A pension in the amount which, when added to the member's annuity, will provide a total retirement allowance of 50% of his final compensation.
- c. Except for the Superintendent of State Police, any member of the retirement system, including a member appointed to the State Police under section 3 of P.L.1983, c.403 (C.39:2-9.3) and a member appointed to the State Police under section 1 of P.L.1997, c.19 (C.53:1-8.2), who has attained the age of 55 years, shall be retired forthwith on the first day of the next calendar month following the effective date of this 1985 amendatory act. Any member of the retirement system so retired shall receive a service retirement allowance pursuant to this section or section 27 of P.L.1965, c.89 (C.53:5A-27), as appropriate.
- d. Any member of the retirement system ¹[as of the effective date of [this act] P.L.1985, c.175 as well as any member appointed to the State Police under section 1 of P.L.1997, c.19 (C.53:1-8.2)] who is required to retire pursuant to subsection c. of this section ¹and who has more than 20 but fewer than 25 years of creditable service at the time of retirement shall be entitled to continued health benefits coverage during retirement as provided in the "New Jersey State Health Benefits Program Act," P.L.1961, c.49 (C.52:14-17.25 et seq.). Notwithstanding the provisions of section 8 of P.L.1961, c.49 (C.52:14-17.32), the State shall pay the premium or periodic charge for the benefits provided <u>under this subsection</u> to a member retiring under subsection c. of this section with fewer than 25 years of service credited in the retirement system, and [his]

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the member's dependents covered under the program, but not including survivors.

- e. Any member of the retirement system as of the effective date of [this act] <u>P.L.1985</u>, <u>c.175</u> who is required to retire pursuant to subsection c. of this section shall be entitled to the retirement allowance provided for by subsection b. of this section, notwithstanding that the member shall have fewer than 20 years' creditable service.
- f. Any member of the retirement system as of the effective date of P.L.1985, c.175 who is required to retire pursuant to subsection c. of this section and who has more than 20 but less than 25 years of creditable service at the time of retirement shall be entitled to the retirement allowance provided for by subsection b. of this section plus 3% of his final compensation multiplied by the number of years of creditable service over 20 but not over 25.
- g. Upon the receipt of proper proofs of the death of a member who has retired on a service retirement allowance, there shall be paid to the member's beneficiary an amount equal to one-half of the final compensation received by the member.

(cf: P.L.1997, c.19, s.9)

2. This act shall take effect immediately.